

Report Markup Language:

RML2PDF and RML

Report Markup Language

- Page Layout Description
- RML
- RML2PDF
- No Programming
- Outputs PDF

What is RML?

- XML
- Cross-platform
- Simple to use!

What is RML *NOT*?

- "XML-like"
- XSLT
- Free

RML Features:

- Separates content from layout:
 - stylesheet
 - template
 - story
- Integrates with other RL products (eg PageCatcher)
- Allows:
 - multiple frames on a page
 - multiple templates in a document

Graphics vs Flowables:

- **Graphics**

appear at a specific, defined location on the page.

- **Flowables**

Appear in the "story", which flows down the page.

Examples:

- **Graphics**
drawString, rect, circle,
ellipse, lines, path,
curves, forms
- **Flowables**
para, blockTable, title,
h1, h2, h3, spacer, pre

More Examples:

- **More graphics**
grid, Translate, Scale, Rotate,
Skew, Transform, Image
- **PageNumber**
- **Name and getName**
- **Seq and seqReset**
- **plugInGraphics and plugInFlowables**
- **Aliases**
- **outlineAdd**

How does RML look?

```
<!DOCTYPE document SYSTEM "rml_1_0.dtd">
<document filename="example_1.pdf">

<stylesheet>
</stylesheet>

<pageDrawing>
  <drawCentredString x="4.1in" y="5.8in">
    Hello World.
  </drawCentredString>
</pageDrawing>

</document>
```

A real example of RML:

Space station demo...

RML can be invoked from:

- **Command line**
`rml2pdf filename.rml`
- **Cgi-script**
(eg web or application server)
- **Within Python**

```
def go(xmlInputText,  
outputFileName=None, outDir=None,  
dtdDir=None):
```

PageCatcher

ReportLab Solutions, LSM, Bordeaux 2001

PageCatcher

- Takes an external PDF file
- Extracts single or multiple pages ("*catches*" them)
- "cans" them as a data file

So...?

- Allows you to re-use single/multiple pages from existing PDF files
- Lets designers use their favorite tools...
- Can re-order pages without having to totally redesign
- Can overprint new info on old documents
- Integrates with RML!
Using the <catchForms> tag

Some PageCatcher demos...

*some basic demos showing what it
can do.*